

Kingdom and also for confirming *S. bella* as new to Wales. I am also grateful to Mark Shaw for his helpful comments on an earlier draft of this paper.

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Dewick's *Plusia*, *Macdunnoughia confusa* (Steph.) (Lep.: Noctuidae) in Hampshire

I was pleased to find a lovely fresh male Dewick's *Plusia*, *Macdunnoughia confusa* in my Lymington garden moth trap on the morning of 6 September 2003. As far as I am aware, this is only the fifth record for Hampshire.

This scarce migrant was first taken in Britain by A. J. Dewick in October 1951. By 1983, sixteen had been recorded (Skinner, B., 1984. *Colour Identification Guide to the Moths of the British Isles*. Viking). The present total now stands around fifty (Waring, P., & Townsend, M., 2003. *Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland*. British Wildlife Publishing). It is found commonly in the autumn on the north-west coast of Spain, and it could be that this is the origin of many British specimens. The spread of the species from the Eastern Palaearctic into Western Europe has been noted in the past.— ALEC S. HARMER, Covertside, Sway Road, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 8NN.

Lepidoptera on Hop *Humulus lupulus* at Etton, Northamptonshire (VC 32), in 2003

During 2003 I undertook searches for the Buttoned Snout *Hypena rostralis* (L.) and its larval foodplant Hop *Humulus lupulus* L. in the area immediately to the north of Peterborough. This work was part of the survey of this UK Biodiversity Action Plan moth by the Cambridgeshire & Essex Branch of Butterfly Conservation, co-ordinated by Robin Field, with financial support from an English Nature Biodiversity Action Grant. Waring (2003. *British Wildlife* **14**: 285-288) provides the context for this project. While both plant and moth have been found to be well distributed in Essex, and to a lesser extent in south Cambridgeshire (Field *et al.*, 2003. *Atropos* **20**: 11-14), botanical records indicate that the plant has seldom been reported in the area between Peterborough and the county boundary to the north at Market Deeping. However, a